

# Hurricane Katrina Update

# New *Direction*

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If you have information or photos you'd like to submit for consideration in the newsletter please send to [maria.tolleson@navy.mil](mailto:maria.tolleson@navy.mil).

## RDML Bachmann Visits SSC NOLA

By Teresa Leger  
SSC NOLA Public Affairs Office

RDML Michael C. Bachmann, SPAWAR's new Commander, visited the SSC New Orleans facilities for the first time on Friday, April 7. Bachmann had an opportunity to view the command facilities, meet with leadership, and address the personnel after distributing awards at the awards ceremony.

Bachmann had an opportunity to tour the facilities and view the in-progress renovations. He met with personnel currently working in the SSC New Orleans facilities as they explained more about the command, what it has gone through since Hurricane Katrina, how the mission of the command is still being met in spite of the current circumstances, and the vision for the future.

After presenting awards to the personnel with CAPT Fred Mingo, SSC New Orleans commanding officer, RDML Bachmann took the opportunity to introduce himself and provide details of his background within the Navy. More information can be found within his [biography](#).



**RDML Michael Bachmann**  
**SPAWAR Commander**

[Continued](#)

# Blood Drive Returns to SSC NOLA

By Maria LoVasco Tolleson  
SSC NOLA Public Affairs Officer

**Gerald Comeaux, foreground, and Richard Gonzalez, background, donate blood in the Bloodmobile on April 13. Fifteen units of blood were donated during what was the first blood drive held at the SSC New Orleans facility since the storm. The Blood Center is facing a critical shortage region wide.**



**(left to right) Kathy Vargo, Laura Napolitano, Carlos Polk, and Debbie Mitchell hosted a "Red Hat" tea for personnel working at the SSC New Orleans. Any and all hats were welcome. Afterwards Laura Napolitano and Justine Gunday (not pictured) went to each trailer to encourage folks to donate blood.**

## Kudos

### NPDB

Bill (Demers),  
As the Government Supervisor for the Navy Personnel Database (NPDB), I can state that the SPAWAR Systems Center, New Orleans is quite happy with and grateful for the performance of Ms. Terri Melian, Mr. Douglas St. Cyr, and Mr. Glenn Price.

Through the efforts of Ms. Melian, the Navy Personnel Database (NPDB) staff was organized immediately after Hurricane Katrina's strike. Because of her thoughtfulness and action, NPDB and the Joint Personnel Adjudication feed from NPDB were never in jeopardy, operationally. Ms. Melian, Mr. Price and Mr. St.Cyr went to work immediately to cover these important systems, and because of Ms. Melian's leadership, and the quick response of the team (and continued professionalism), not a single down-time occurrence was recorded. Their professionalism is an everyday presence.

*Bud Gobbel  
Interface SET Lead,  
Navy Personnel Database Supervisor, Civilian  
Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center, New Orleans*

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# First Awards Ceremony since Katrina

By Teresa Leger  
SSC NOLA Public Affairs Office

The SSC New Orleans held the first official awards ceremony since personnel were displaced by Hurricane Katrina in late August. Although personnel have received recognition for their outstanding work and accomplishments through their supervisors, articles in previous newsletters, and acknowledgments via e-mails, this was the first opportunity for a formal presentation of awards.

Personnel gathered between the trailers located in the front parking lot of the SSC New Orleans facilities while workers still working from alternate sites attended via teleconference on Friday, April 7. RDML Michael C. Bachmann, SPAWAR's Commander, assisted CAPT Fred Mingo, SSC New Orleans Commanding Officer, in presenting the awards.

The first award presented was the Department of the Navy Information Management/Information Technology (IM/IT) Excellence Award. It was given to the Medical Readiness Reporting System (MRRS) team for their innovative work which allowed the Navy Reserve to lead the way in individual medical readiness reporting and immunization tracking and reporting. The team was recognized for their overwhelming dedication to the success of the MRRS project.

Members of the MRRS team include Ronnie Breaux, Brent Drexel, Keith Durapau, Warren Eder, Ricky Heitmeier, Steven Hollars, Robert Parish, Hasmukh Patel and Kathy Roth.



[Continued](#)

## Length of Service Awards

*SSC New Orleans personnel were recognized for their many years of dedicated service to the United States government.*

### 10 Years

Eva E. Allen  
Christopher Dale Brown  
Manuel B. Noesi  
Katina O. Shelby  
Robert Ugrinich  
Meredith W. Powell

### 15 Years

Harold Bud Gobbel  
David A. Tatum  
Emma Gail Foster

### 20 Years

Terry A. Claverie  
Karin B. Wallace  
Joyce M. Morris  
M'liss Bush  
Kathryn Hopkins

### 25 Years

Mary C. Cowart  
Vincent Hamilton  
Ernest A. Mitchell  
Dane C. Smith  
Kristie Thomas

### 30 Years

Rosalie D. Armes  
Carol R. Delay  
Doris Evans  
John R. Floyd  
Charles W. Scruggs  
Lynda J. Ester  
Debra A. Jones

### 35 Years

Leonard Phair

### 45 Years

John A. Burden

## **Awards Ceremony (continued)**

Rogers Moore accepted the Lightning Bolt Award for the members of the SSC New Orleans Network Registration Team. The team consists of Moore, Artis Silvester, Patricia Williams and John Palmer.

The SSC New Orleans Network Registration Team was part of a larger collective effort which received the Lightning Bolt Team Excellence Award for the development and execution of an aggressive plan to identify every network, server, and application in use throughout the Navy.

Members of the SSC New Orleans Information Assurance and Network Security Teams were acknowledged for their participation in an effort that earned SPAWAR Headquarters Code 08 a Lightning Bolt Award. The SSC New Orleans team assisted SPAWAR in a coordinated effort for the Department of Defense wide security stand-down which occurred on November 29. The team was responsible

for ensuring that management, systems administrators, and end users had completed all preparatory requirements for the November 29 events. Included in this honor from SSC New Orleans were Lucy Colangione, Karon Franks, Mike Hagan, Zina Flemings, Christopher Pote, Dwayne Green, Lionel Cannon, Betsy Green, Christopher LaFrance, and Todd Olsen.

SPAWARRIOR of the Quarter Plaques were presented to LT Lois Tink and Dwayne Green for the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter of 2005. This is the first time there has been dual winners for the SPAWAR SPAWARRIOR of the Quarter award.

Tink and Green were recognized for their exemplary support for Navy manpower and personnel by continuing to execute the mission of the SSC New Orleans despite obstacles, danger, challenges, and personal sacrifice resulting from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Their strong display of leadership before, during and after Hurri-



**RDML Bachmann (left) and CAPT Fred Mingo (right) present the SPAWARRIOR of the Quarter to LT Lois Tink and Dwayne Green**

cane Katrina's landfall allowed the SSC New Orleans to successfully execute its Continuity of Operations Plan and continue supporting Navy manpower and personnel requirements. They were honored for their courage, resourcefulness, and dedication while working in extremely hazardous conditions to remove servers, computers and other equipment from the damaged SSC New Orleans facilities.

The SSC New Orleans Customer Support Center, which includes the helpdesk, operations, and all Tier II support staff have been nominated for the Government Customer Support Center Community of Practice - Government Customer Support Center of the Year. They have earned nominations in two of the four areas -Teamwork and Overall Excellence. The winners will be announced at the Government Customer Support Center Exposition in Washington on June 14.

## **Removal of Personal Items from the SSC NOLA Facilities**

All personal items need to be picked up from the parking garage at the SSC New Orleans facility by May 15. To accommodate personnel who cannot get to the SSC New Orleans during the week, the facilities will be open the weekend of May 6-7 from 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. This is the only weekend that this will be offered; otherwise, employees can pick up items during regular hours, 7:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Monday through Friday until May15. After this date, all remaining items will be disposed of.

# SSC NOLA Building Restoration

By Teresa Leger, SSC NOLA Public Affairs Office



**The third floor Building 3 has been cleared and is currently being painted in preparation for reoccupation. Members of the Customer Support Center are currently working in the Systems Management Center on the fifth floor of Building 3. Once the third floor is complete, they will return to their pod type environment and team members still working in Ft. Worth, Texas will return to the SSC New Orleans facilities.**



**The computer operations floor is currently being rewired as final touches are being made to return the servers to the floor. Racks can be seen in the background of this photograph waiting for servers to be placed within them.**

## ***Important Numbers and Web Sites***

- Navy Global Distance Support Center (to update your location and contact information), 1-877-418-6824, Option 2 or [www.anchordesk.navy.mil](http://www.anchordesk.navy.mil)
- BUPERS 24-hour Helpline, 1-877-414-5358
- Safe Haven Orders, 1-866-239-0303
- 24-hour Support Hotline, 1-800-677-5327
- Community Support Center, 504-678-7569
- Per Diem Rates <https://secureapp2.hqda.pentagon.mil/perdiem/perdiemrates.html>
- FEMA, 1-800-621-3362 or [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)
- Red Cross, [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)
- DOD Civilian Personnel Management Service: Hurricane Information for DOD Civilian Employees and Annuitants, <http://www.cpms.osd.mil/hurricaneinfo/index.htm>
- Civilian Employee Assistance Program, 1-800-677-LEAP
- Federal Tax Relief, [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov), select " help for hurricane victims"
- Guidance for Navy and Marine Corps Personnel in Hurricane Disaster Areas - <http://taskforcenavyfamily.navy.mil/Content/RecoveringFromADisaster-Final.pdf>

## **Bachmann Visit (continued)**

Bachmann stated that he feels the SSC New Orleans should remain within the SPAWAR claimancy as an acquisition command instead of becoming a part of the Manpower Personnel, Training, and Education (MPT&E) enterprise. He stated he has voiced his opinions in numerous recent meetings and plans to continue the discussion. At this point, it is not clear where the SSC New Orleans will fall in October. However, Bachmann stated that our mission is vital to the Navy and we will remain in New Orleans with either organization. He also stated that information will be provided to the SSC New Orleans personnel as it is obtained and final decisions are made.

**(below) RDML Bachmann is presented with the plans for renovation of the third floor of Bldg. 3. Pictured (left to right) are CDR Paul Treutel, SSC NOLA Executive Officer; CAPT Fred Mingo, SSC NOLA Commanding Officer, Jack Walbridge, Customer Support Center contract manager; Dennis Pigg, SSC New Orleans Restoration Project Manager.**

**(right) RDML Bachmann has an opportunity to ask questions while touring the Systems Management Center.**

**(bottom right) Lt. Lois Tink and Treutel provide an overview of the plans for the Computer Operations floor.**





Rear Admiral Michael Bachmann, USN  
Commander  
Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command

Rear Admiral Bachmann is Commander of the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command (SPAWAR). He is responsible for providing information technology and space systems for today's naval and joint services. Additionally, he is the chief engineer for developing, delivering and maintaining effective, capable and integrated command, control, communications, computer, and intelligence systems. He is also responsible for engineering and assessing FORCEnet, the foundation of the Sea Power 21 vision.

Bachmann graduated in June 1974 from the United States Naval Academy with a Bachelor of Science degree in Aerospace Engineering. Bachmann subsequently attained a Master of Science degree in Systems Management, and a doctoral degree in Psychology and Technology from the University of Southern California during off duty hours. A graduate of the Naval War College, he was additionally awarded a Master of Arts degree in National Security and Strategic Studies in 1990.

Bachmann has acquired extensive acquisition experience through a wide variety of afloat, shore-based and joint duty assignments. He has completed ship's company sea duty assignments aboard *USS Ranger* (CV-61), *USS New Orleans* (LPH-11), and *USS Enterprise* (CVN-65), and fleet assignments at Naval Air Station North Island and the Commander Naval Air Forces Pacific staff.

In 1990, Bachmann was assigned to the Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR) as the Deputy Director for Aviation Logistics Information Systems. He was subsequently assigned to the Joint Logistics Systems Center, WPAFB Ohio, as a DoD Major Program Manager (ACAT I).

On Dec. 7, 1993, Bachmann was assigned as the Director of the Joint Depot Maintenance Analysis Group under the direction of the Joint Logistics Commanders and the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD).

Bachmann assumed command of the SPAWAR Naval Tactical Command Support

System (NTCSS) on Nov. 17, 1995. NTCSS, a DoD ACAT I program, was selected into the Secretary of the Navy Acquisition Hall of Fame in April 1998, nominated for the OSD Packard Award, and awarded the OSD Certificate for Acquisition Excellence. During this period Bachmann was assigned as the Acting Director of Information Support Systems and was responsible for the oversight of a multitude of information technology acquisition programs.

From August 1998 through June 2000 Bachmann was assigned to the Chief of Naval Operations, Air Warfare Division, as the Head, Aviation Maintenance Programs responsible for the execution of accounts in excess of \$18 billion for the advancement of Naval Aviation.

Bachmann was assigned as the Commander, Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division in September 2001 with additional responsibilities as NAVAIR Assistant Commander for Test and Evaluation, and Shore Station Management. In February 2003 he was assigned as the NAVAIR Assistant Commander for Logistics and Industrial Operations. Bachmann was selected to be the NAVAIR Vice Commander in March 2005.

His personal awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit (Sixth Award), Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with Gold Star, Navy Commendation Medal with Gold star, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Navy Battle Efficiency Award (two awards), National Defense Service Medal (with Service Star), Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Sea Service Deployment ribbon (with three Service Stars), and Rifle and Pistol Medals. He is a member of the U.S. Naval Institute and the Naval Academy Athletic Association.